

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

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PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
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FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2407
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 1982

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PDIP, PINS, AO, NL
SUBJ: ANGOLA: DUTCH INFORMATION ON NETO

REF: LAGOS 3596

1. EMBOFF MENTIONED NETHERLANDS AMBASSADOR ZEYLSTRA'S REPORT (REFTEL) TO MFA HEAD OF CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN AFRICAN AFFAIRS VAN VLIET. VAN VLIET CONFIRMED ZEYLSTRA'S INFORMATION, SAYING THAT NETO'S HEART ATTACK HAD BEEN SERIOUS. HE EMPHASIZED THAT ANGOLAN OFFICIALS OFFERED THIS EXPLANATION FOR NETO'S NON-APPEARANCE ONLY AFTER PERSISTENT QUESTIONING BY ZEYLSTRA. HOWEVER, VAN VLIET SPECULATED THAT NETO'S LONG PERIOD OF CONFINEMENT MAY ALSO HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH THE WISH OF MILITANT MPLA ELEMENTS TO PREVENT NETO FROM TALKING WITH UNITA LEADER SAVIMBI AND TO PERMIT THE FIGHTING IN THE SOUTH TO CONTINUE.

2. VAN VLIET SAID THAT REPORTS OF RECENT UNITA GAINS WERE PROBABLY OVERSTATED. UNITA MAINTAINS VERY EFFECTIVE PRESS RELATIONS. STORIES ABOUT MASSACRES OF MPLA TROOPS WERE GROSSLY EXAGGERATED.

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: HEALTH, PRESIDENT, POLITICAL SITUATION
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Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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